

PRESS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Western District of Wisconsin
(608) 264-5158
TTY (608) 264-5006

For Immediate Release

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Contact Person

Rita M. Rumbelow
Assistant U.S. Attorney

Madison, Wisconsin -- Stephen P. Sinnott, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Allen Ladd, Madison, DOB 06/24/1965, was sentenced today by Chief U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to 30 years in prison , without the possibility of parole, for possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine and being a felon in possession of a firearm. Ladd was convicted of these charges on September 27, 2005, following a jury trial.

On March 12, 2005, Ladd was intending to sell crack cocaine to a customer. However, the customer was arrested by the Madison Police Department and provided information against Ladd. Ladd was arrested at the Denny's Restaurant on Gammon Road and found in possession of 18 grams of crack cocaine and a loaded handgun. Additionally, prior to trial, Ladd wrote a letter to a friend asking him to make sure the customer who cooperated against him didn't come to court.

Ladd, originally from Chicago, has an extensive criminal history, which includes prior drug and firearms convictions. Judge Crabb considered Ladd's violent history, as well as his attempt to obstruct justice in this case, when sentencing him to 30 years in prison.

The charges against Ladd were the result of an investigation conducted by

Madison Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The charges were also the result of the ongoing Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) initiative in the Madison area. Prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rita M. Rumbelow.

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